
Memorandum

To: Chinook Parents and Caregivers
FROM: Mark Benesh, Director of Education
DATE: April 14, 2021
RE: Mask protocol and guidance



In an ongoing effort to ensure the safety of students and staff during the pandemic, the Ministry of Education has purchased additional masks for students and staff. These Level 1 (medical grade, 3 layer) disposable masks will be distributed and made available for students and staff to access if needed at all Chinook schools this week.

The Chinook School Division Mask Protocol implemented on November 30, 2020 remains in effect. An infographic containing the protocol is on page two.

Please review the guidance and recommendations for masks on the Government of Saskatchewan and Health Canada websites:

- The [Government of Saskatchewan website](#) provides information on why you should wear a mask, what kind of mask you should use, and lists tips on how to wear a mask.
- The [Government of Canada website](#) contains information on masks, including materials, construction and fit; proper use; neck gaiters/warmers, scarves and bandannas (not recommended); safety considerations; and also provides information and a video on [how to put on, remove and clean COVID-19 non-medical masks](#).

Please continue to follow all protective measures in schools and communities, including the wearing of face masks. Infographics on wearing masks, safe use and proper fit are included on the following pages.





Chinook Schools **MASK PROTOCOL**



The Government of Saskatchewan has mandated masks in all schools. The following guidelines must be enforced and practiced consistently in Chinook schools.

PREKINDERGARTEN - GRADE 12 STUDENTS

Masks are required at all times on buses and in schools, including in class (except while consuming food/beverage).



STUDENT MASK BREAKS

Teachers may offer mask breaks in class when all students are working independently at their desks.



ALL SCHOOL STAFF

Masks are required at all times in schools, in Chinook buildings and on buses, unless individuals are working independently in a separate space.



VISITORS, PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS

Masks are required at all times. All visitors will be screened. Only essential, scheduled visits are encouraged.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Masks are required, except while engaging in aquatic activities. Lower impact activities will be selected to minimize risks.



PERFORMING ARTS

The Government of Saskatchewan's current Performing Arts Guidelines will be followed.



OUTDOORS

Masks are not required in outdoor spaces. Distancing and class/group cohorting is encouraged. Masks are recommended when distancing is not possible.



Detailed plans and updates:

CHINOOKSD.CA

Does your mask fit properly?

The way your mask fits can help protect you and others from COVID-19

- Choose a mask made of multiple layers, including at least 2 layers of tightly woven fabric and a third middle layer of filter-type fabric.
- Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water aren't available, use a hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol.

1 Fit is important. Make sure your mask completely covers your nose, mouth and chin.



2 Check for gaps between your face and your mask.

Check the top, sides and bottom of your mask.



Check the edges of your mask for air leaks and adjust if necessary.

3 Adjust your mask so that it fits snugly.

Adjust the ties or ear loops.



Adjust the wire nose piece if your mask has one.



Public Health
Agency of Canada

Agence de la santé
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Canada

COVID-19: Children and Masks

Wearing a non-medical cloth mask can help reduce the spread of COVID-19, but some children might be scared. Parents and caregivers can help by explaining that a mask can help reduce the spread of germs and by showing children how to properly use a mask.



Wash Your Hands!

Wash with soap and water or use hand sanitizer before putting the mask on, as well as before and after removing the mask.



Use the Loops!

Use the ear loops or ties to put on and remove the mask. Don't touch the front of the mask.



Cover Your Nose and Chin!

The mask should cover your nose and chin. Do not take it off to talk to someone.



Wash Your Mask!

Non-medical cloth masks should be washed after every use. A new mask should be used if the mask becomes soiled or wet.

Masks should not be worn by children under the age of 2 or those who cannot remove a mask without help. For these children, emphasize the importance of frequent handwashing and proper coughing or sneezing etiquette.